

# REPORT

## ON

# NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 13th August 1887.

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| The loss of the <i>Mahratta</i>                         | ... <i>ib.</i> |

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| An order of the Magistrate of Cuttack               | ... <i>ib.</i> |
| Mr. Luson   | ... <i>ib.</i> |
| The proposed sanitarium at Darjeeling               | ... <i>ib.</i> |
| Steamer service in the coast canal                  | ... <i>ib.</i> |
| Medical inspection of the roadside serais in Orissa | ... <i>ib.</i> |
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## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

| No.                 | Names of newspapers.     | Place of publication.  | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>ASSAMESE.</b>    |                          |                        |                                 |   |
| <i>Monthly.</i>     |                          |                        |                                 |   |
| 1                   | "Assam Vilásini"         | Sibsagar               | .....                           |   |
| 2                   | "Assam News"             | Ditto                  | 450                             |   |
| <b>BENGALI.</b>     |                          |                        |                                 |   |
| <i>Monthly.</i>     |                          |                        |                                 |   |
| 3                   | "Ahammadí"               | Tangail, Mymensingh..  | .....                           |   |
| 4                   | "Kasipore Nibási"        | Kasipore, Burrisal     | .....                           |   |
| <i>Fortnightly.</i> |                          |                        |                                 |   |
| 5                   | "Ave Maria"              | Calcutta               | .....                           |   |
| 6                   | "Purva Darpan"           | Chittagong             | 700                             |   |
| 7                   | "Silchar"                | Silchar, Assam         | .....                           |   |
| <i>Weekly.</i>      |                          |                        |                                 |   |
| 8                   | "Arya Darpan"            | Calcutta               | 102                             | 5th August 1887.                                    |
| 9                   | "Arya Pratibhá"          | Halishahar             | .....                           |   |
| 10                  | "Bangabási"              | Calcutta               | 20,000                          | 6th ditto.  |
| 11                  | "Bhāratbási"             | Ditto                  | 3,000                           | 30th July 1887.                                     |
| 12                  | "Burdwān Sanjivani"      | Burdwan                | 302                             | 2nd August 1887.                                    |
| 13                  | "Chāruvārtá"             | Sherepore, Mymensingh  | 500                             | 2nd ditto.  |
| 14                  | "Dacca Prakāsh"          | Dacca                  | 450                             | 7th ditto.  |
| 15                  | "Dhumaketu"              | Chandernagore          | .....                           | 5th ditto.  |
| 16                  | "Education Gazette"      | Hooghly                | 825                             | 5th ditto.  |
| 17                  | "Garib and Mahavidya"    | Dacca                  | .....                           | 3rd ditto.  |
| 18                  | "Grambási"               | Uluberia               | .....                           |   |
| 19                  | "Hindu Ranjiká"          | Beauleah, Rajshahye... | 200                             |   |
| 20                  | "Murshidābād Patriká"    | Berhampore             | 508                             | 5th ditto.  |
| 21                  | "Murshidābād Pratimidhi" | Ditto                  | .....                           |   |
| 22                  | "Nava Mediní"            | Midnapore              | .....                           |   |
| 23                  | "Navavishákār Sādhāraní" | Calcutta               | 1,000                           | 8th ditto.  |



| No.                         | Names of newspapers.                   | Place of publication.    | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and<br>for the week. | amined |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------|
| <b>BENGALI—concluded.</b>   |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| <i>Weekly—concluded.</i>    |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 24                          | "Paridarshak" ... ..                   | Sylhet                   | 450                             | 30th July 1887.                               |        |
| 25                          | "Prajá Bandhu" ... ..                  | Chandernagore            | 995                             | 5th August 1887.                              |        |
| 26                          | "Pratikár" ... ..                      | Berhampore               | 600                             | 5th ditto.                                    |        |
| 27                          | "Púrva Bangabási" ... ..               | Noakholly                | .....                           |   |        |
| 28                          | "Rungpore Dik Prakásh" ... ..          | Kakiniá, Rungpore        | 205                             | 4th ditto.                                    |        |
| 29                          | "Sahachar" ... ..                      | Calcutta                 | 500                             | 3rd ditto.                                    |        |
| 30                          | "Samaya" ... ..                        | Ditto                    | 2,350                           | 5th ditto.                                    |        |
| 31                          | "Sanjivani" ... ..                     | Ditto                    | 4,000                           | 6th ditto.                                    |        |
| 32                          | "Sansodhini" ... ..                    | Chittagong               | 800                             |   |        |
| 33                          | "Sáraswat Patra" ... ..                | Dacca                    | 400                             |   |        |
| 34                          | "Som Prakásh" ... ..                   | Changripottá, 24-Pergha. | 1,000                           | 8th ditto.                                    |        |
| 35                          | "Srimanta Saudagár" ... ..             | Calcutta                 | .....                           | 3rd ditto.                                    |        |
| 36                          | "Sulabha Samáchar and Kusadaha" ... .. | Ditto                    | 3,000                           | 5th ditto.                                    |        |
| 37                          | "Surabhi and Patáká" ... ..            | Ditto                    | 700                             | 4th ditto.                                    |        |
| <i>Daily.</i>               |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 38                          | "Dainik and Samachár Chandriká" ... .. | Calcutta                 | 7,000                           | 7th to 11th August 1887.                      |        |
| 39                          | "Samvád Prabhákar" ... ..              | Ditto                    | 200                             | 6th to 8th ditto.                             |        |
| 40                          | "Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ... ..       | Ditto                    | 300                             | 5th to 10th ditto.                            |        |
| 41                          | "Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ... ..        | Ditto                    | 500                             |   |        |
| <b>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</b> |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 42                          | "Dacca Gazette" ... ..                 | Dacca                    | .....                           | 8th August 1887.                              |        |
| <b>HINDI.</b>               |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| <i>Monthly.</i>             |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 43                          | "Kshatriya Pratiká" ... ..             | Patna                    | .....                           |   |        |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 44                          | "Aryávarta" ... ..                     | Calcutta                 | .....                           |   |        |
| 45                          | "Behar Bandhu" ... ..                  | Bankipore                | .....                           |   |        |
| 46                          | "Bhárat Mitra" ... ..                  | Calcutta                 | 1,500                           | 4th ditto.                                    |        |
| 47                          | "Sár Sudhánidhi" ... ..                | Ditto                    | 500                             | 2nd ditto.                                    |        |
| 48                          | "Uchit Baktá" ... ..                   | Ditto                    | 4,500                           |   |        |
| 49                          | "Hindi Samáchar" ... ..                | Bhagulpore               | 1,000                           |   |        |
| <b>PERSIAN.</b>             |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 50                          | "Jám-Jahán-numá" ... ..                | Calcutta                 | 250                             | 5th ditto.                                    |        |
| <b>URDU.</b>                |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 51                          | "Aftal Alum Arrah" ... ..              | Arrah                    | .....                           | 1st ditto.                                    |        |
| 52                          | "Gauhur" ... ..                        | Calcutta                 | 196                             |   |        |
| 53                          | "Sharaf-ul-Akhbar" ... ..              | Behar                    | 150                             |   |        |
| 54                          | "Al Punch" ... ..                      | Bankipore                | .....                           | 8th ditto.                                    |        |
| <i>Bi-weekly.</i>           |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 55                          | "Akhbar-i-darusaltanat" ... ..         | Calcutta                 | 340                             |   |        |
| <i>Daily.</i>               |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 56                          | "Urdu Guide" ... ..                    | Calcutta                 | 212                             | 7th to 9th August 1887.                       |        |
| <b>URIYA.</b>               |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| <i>Monthly.</i>             |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 57                          | "Taraka and Subhavártá" ... ..         | Cuttack                  | .....                           |   |        |
| 58                          | "Pradip" ... ..                        | Ditto                    | .....                           |   |        |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |  |                          |                                 |   |        |
| 59                          | "Utkal Dípiká" ... ..                  | Cuttack                  | 200                             | 16th July 1887.                               |        |
| 60                          | "Balasore Samvad Váhika" ... ..        | Balasore                 | 205                             | 14th ditto.                                   |        |
| 61                          | "Sanskárek" ... ..                     | Cuttack                  | 200                             | 21st ditto.                                   |        |
| 62                          | "Navasamvád" ... ..                    | Ditto                    | .....                           | 21st ditto.                                   |        |

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## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 2nd August, says that the reason why the English Government, with so much more wealth and so many more subjects than Russia has, fears the latter power, is that it is conscious that it is governing India in an unjust spirit. If Government rules India justly, it can safely defy Russia or any other power.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,  
August 2nd, 1887.

2. The *Sahachar*, of the 3rd August, says that, considering the opposition shown by the Hill tribes across the North-Western frontier, Government should abandon its idea of constructing a serai at Lundi Kotal.

SAHACHAR,  
August 3rd, 1887.

3. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 7th August, says that notwithstanding the English belief that the Amir has been a greater gainer than Russia under the boundary arrangements recently fixed upon, it is clear that the real advantage belongs to Russia. The tract of country which Russia has acquired has brought her within a distance of fifteen *cosses* from Herat, and she will not take more than fifteen days to do these 15 *cosses*. The situation of Abdar Rahman is truly critical. His fall is almost certain. And the question is, what will the English do if the Amir falls? Will England and Russia divide Afghanistan between themselves? That will be impossible. The Afghan people will stand in the way of such a division. Anyhow, affairs in Afghanistan are taking a serious turn. The situation is getting dangerous day by day.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
August 7th, 1887.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

4. The *Bháratbási*, of the 30th July, is sorry to learn that the case against the bone-crushing mill at Utterpara has been dismissed by Mr. Ritchie, Sub-divisional Officer of Serampore. It is a pity that the Sub-divisional Officer has not considered the great inconvenience which the people there suffer in consequence of the existence of such a mill in their midst. The noise made by the mill is a nuisance in itself, and the bone-dust issuing from it pollutes all articles of food and drink in the neighbouring Hindu houses. A foul smell also issues from the mill, and birds of prey drop pieces of bone—an abomination in Hindu eyes—into the houses of the Hindu gentlemen living in that quarter.

BHARATBASI,  
July 30th, 1887.

5. A correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 2nd August, says that the abolition of the Ghoshgaon Munsifi has caused great inconvenience to the people. It is true that the people residing in the villages to the east of Durgapore have benefited by its abolition, but those residing in the villages to the west of that place, as well as the people of Phulpore, have been put to great inconvenience. Government is requested to look to the matter.

CHARU VARTA,  
August 2nd, 1887.

6. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 4th August, complains of the high-handed proceedings of Mr. Macleod, Sub-Divisional Officer of Nowgong in Assam. It is stated that he has recently sentenced two innocent men, Huzur Kulit and Nistai Kulit, under section 411 of the

RUNGPORE DIK-  
PRAKASH,  
August 4th, 1887.

Mr. Macleod, Sub-Divisional Officer  
of Nowgong, Assam.



Penal Code, to undergo rigorous imprisonment for six months. The poor men are rotting in jail simply because of their inability to pay the costs of an appeal. Government ought to enquire into the matter and check these unjust and high-handed proceedings.

SAMAYA,  
August 5th, 1887.

7. The *Samaya*, of the 5th August, referring to the manner in which the Deputy Magistrates of Berhampore, Netrokona, and so on, have been behaving themselves of late in their official capacity, observes that the native officers of Government are capable of committing injustice and oppression at the instance or instigation of their European superiors. It behoves the Lieutenant-Governor therefore to curtail the powers conferred on such Deputy Magistrates.

SAMAYA.

8. The same paper has read in the *Statesman* newspaper certain complaints against the character of the Munsif of Serajgunge.

The Munsif of Serajgunge. It is stated that the Munsif often comes to court in a drunken state and decides cases in favour of his friends and acquaintances. If there be truth in these charges the Munsif should be duly punished by Government.

SANJIVANI,  
August 6th, 1887.

9. The *Sanjivani*, of the 6th August, has learnt from a correspondent of the *Statesman* newspaper that the Munsif of Serajgunge comes to court in a drunken state. The matter should be inquired into.

The Munsif of Serajgunge.

SANJIVANI.

10. Referring to the case of Mr. Lacey of Berhampore, the same paper says that cases of this kind, showing as they do that the police has no adequate sense of its duty, and that justice has ceased to be administered by competent men, have weakened the popular belief in the excellence of the English systems of civil and criminal administration. The belief that no justice can be expected in a case between a native and an Englishman has assumed an axiomatic form, and so when a native is wronged by a European his friends now advise him to get himself retaliated by other than the lawful means of proceeding against the European in a court of justice. That the popular feeling in this matter is of this kind is a clear proof that justice has ceased to be impartially administered in this country. Government should take note of this. The light punishment hitherto awarded by Government to such Civilians as have caused miscarriage of justice has defeated the very object of punishment. So, if Government is at all anxious to redeem its name for justice, it should visit such officers with exemplary punishment. The interests of the judicial administration also require that Government should remove from the Subordinate Executive Service all those Deputy Magistrates who, having entered the service through the doors of patronage, are behaving as recklessly as boys—violating and framing laws at their own sweet will and pleasure. These Deputy Magistrates, who think that their duty consists simply in carrying out the orders of the Magistrates conveyed officially or in demi-official notes should have their names struck off the roll of public servants. There is nothing to wonder at in an Englishman's oppressing natives, for the conqueror can hardly be expected to sympathise with the conquered. But can any punishment be adequate for those who, being themselves natives commit oppression on their own countrymen with a view of pleasing their foreign masters?

To come to particulars :—

Babu Akshay Kumar Basu, the old Deputy Magistrate of Mymensingh, should not be allowed to disgrace the Executive Service any longer. It is not at all clear why such men as the miserable Deputy Magistrate of Kandi, Babu Bipin Behari Mukerjee, and Mr. Israel of Kushtea, and Babu



Gauri Sankar, the Deputy Magistrate *non pareil* of Nowgaon in the district of Rajshahye, should not make room for better men.

11. A correspondent of the same paper writes as follows regarding S. M. Israel, Deputy Magistrate of the Kumarkhali Police and S. M. Israel, th Kushtea, and the Kumarkhali Police. Deputy Magistrate of Kushtea :—The portion of the public road lying within the bazar at Kumarkhali is called the Kapuhra Sarak, and cloth dealers from the surrounding villages have for years assembled on this *sarak* on *hât* days for the purpose of selling cloth. The public and the local municipality have never objected to the temporary use, by the buyers and sellers of cloth, of this part of the road, on *hât* days. The bazar, along with this *sarak*, has become the property of Babu Fatik Chandra Mazumdar ; and in his time too cloth-dealers have assembled on the spot according to custom. But the police have all on a sudden come down upon the cloth-dealers and arrested 29 of them on the charge of obstructing a public road. The men have been released on bail, and they will have to go to S. M. Israel for trial. Now it is not at all clear why the police should all on a sudden interfere with a practice which is at least one hundred years old, and which has been always tolerated by the Executive authorities. Did the police act in this way with a view to making it appear that the charge of improper intimacy between Fatik Chundra Mazumdar and S. M. Israel, brought by this writer is false? But Fatik Babu is cultivating the friendship of S. M. Israel more assiduously than ever. Both Mr. and Mrs. Israel now mix freely with the family of Fatik Babu, who has set apart a garden house for the use of Mr. Israel during his visit to Kumarkhali. Mr. Israel should be removed from the sub-division of Kustea, and an inquiry should be instituted into the truth of these statements. And then if he is found guilty of having cultivated the friendship of a zemindar within his sub-division, Government should make an example of him.

SANJIVANI,  
August 6th, 1887.

12. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakash*, of the 7th August, complains of the great public inconvenience caused by the delay in the issue of cheques in the Munsif's Court at Serajgunge. It is to be hoped that the Munsif will look to this matter himself.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
August 7th, 1887.

13. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 8th August, says that the Anglo-Indian newspapers are protesting against even the very light punishment which has been awarded to Mr. Luson. The High Court's decision in the matter may not be satisfactory to all ; but this much is certain that the people of Meherpore only committed an attempt at theft, and an attempt at theft is not, according to the law, an offence which is punishable with whipping. As to the High Court's exposition of the law relating to fishing rights, it would be dangerous to say that it is erroneous. If it be wrong to catch fish in a beel or pond, it must also be wrong for people to take away a few aquatic culinary herbs from other people's ponds. But the poor in this country cannot do without procuring herbs and shells and fishes in this way, and it will really go hard with them if the law makes such action of theirs punishable as theft.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
August 8th, 1887.

14. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 9th August, says that cholera having broken out in the subdivision of Daltongunge in the district of Chota Nagpore, two women were brought before the Deputy Magistrate on the charge of having brought about the epidemic by means of witchcraft. The Deputy Magistrate, in order to put an end to the fears of the people, ordered the women to *hojut* for the night ; but the police subjected the poor women to such cruel treatment that one of

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA  
August 9th, 1887.

The Deputy Magistrate of Dalton-  
gunge and two witches.



them attempted to commit suicide. The matter having been brought to the notice of the Deputy Magistrate he ordered the immediate release of the women, and warned the people against calling them "witches" or treating them as such. But why did the Deputy Magistrate put the women into *hajut* at all? And did he make inquiries about the treatment they received at the hands of the police?

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
August 11th, 1887.

15. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 11th August, says that the North-Western Provinces Government contemplates making a rule to the

Barrister's fees.

effect that a Barrister engaged by the crown to conduct a case shall not be entitled to his fee unless he conducts the case to the end. A rule of this kind should be enacted for all India, and both Government and private parties should be allowed to enjoy its benefit.

(d)—Education.

BHARATBAS, I,  
July 30th, 1887.

16. The *Bharatbasi*, of the 30th July, does not approve of the manner in which text-books in Sanskrit are selected by the University. Formerly these text-books consisted of selections from stan-

The Sanskrit Course for the Entrance Examination.

dard Sanskrit works. Now the University authorities entrust some man with the task of compiling a Sanskrit text book, and the University authorities, without examining whether the compilation has been well made or not, adopt it as a text-book. The University is becoming more and more inefficient, and its present object seems to be not to promote the advancement of learning, but to patronise particular individuals. Messrs. H. C. Dutt & Co. have published a book pointing out numerous mistakes in Pundit Nyayaratna's Sanskrit text-book for this year's Entrance Examination. Pundit Nyayaratna's Course consists of 112 pages, and the book pointing out its errors consists of 50 pages!

BHARATBAS, I,

17. The same paper sees no reason why Mr. Martin should replace Rai Radhika Prasanna Mookerjee, Bahadur, in the Presidency Circle. Ought not a man of Radhika Babu's stamp to remain in charge

of that circle?

BHARATBAS, I,

18. The same paper does not approve of Mr. Tawney's order raising the school-fee of the Hare School by one rupee.

The Hare School.

Does Mr. Tawney mean to abolish the Government schools? There can be no doubt that many scholars will leave the school on account of this increase of fee. As the school has a surplus of income over expenditure, it is not easy to discern the object with which the fee has been ordered to be raised.

PARIDARSHAK,  
July 30th, 1887.

19. The *Paridarshak*, of the 30th July, makes the following suggestions for the consideration of the Educational Conference now sitting in Assam:—

The Educational Conference in Assam.

#### I.—Middle English and Middle Vernacular Schools.

The object of the Middle Vernacular and Middle English Examinations is to enable students to acquire some amount of general knowledge and to prosecute their studies in an Entrance School or in a Normal School. It is therefore a question for very careful consideration how many years a boy from a Middle Vernacular school should take to finish his vernacular education in a Normal school, and a boy from a Middle English school to complete his education in an Entrance school. As a rule, Bengali boys should not devote more than eight years to the study of the Bengali language, and the course of studies in the lower schools in this country should be so regulated as to enable a boy to pass the Entrance Examination after six years' study. In order to attain this object, the number of classes in the



Middle Vernacular and Middle English schools should be reduced, and the course of studies in those schools should be so regulated as not to detain a boy for more than five years in those schools. Instruction in Science and Surveying need not be given in Middle Vernacular and Middle English schools, for, as a matter of fact, there is no means in the mofussil to give systematic instruction in those subjects. At present a candidate for the Middle English Examination, besides going through the Middle Vernacular Examination course, has to acquire some knowledge of English. This is too much for him, and it is therefore necessary not to require him to read some of the less important subjects in the vernacular course. In point of utility, the Middle English Examination has a decided advantage over the Middle Vernacular Examination. In the transaction of business some knowledge of English has now become absolutely necessary. A Middle English certificate-holder, who passes the Muktearship Examination, is able to study works on law in English, is preferred to Middle Vernacular certificate-holders for employment in the tea-gardens, and is in a better position than his rival from the Middle Vernacular school to qualify himself for the Entrance Examination.

### II.—High Schools.

The High School course should be finished in six years.

There are eight classes in a High School. The Conference should, as a tentative measure, reduce the number of classes to seven, and if the experiment succeeds, the number may be afterwards reduced to six. This will save much time, trouble and expense. The study of the Bengali language is neglected in the High Schools. The Conference should see that Bengali teaching is improved in the lower classes of those schools. High education is daily gaining favour with the people. There are five or six High Schools in Sylhet. The rules relating to the administration of the grant-in-aid to High Schools should be revised. The junior scholarships in the Bramhaputra Valley and in the Surma Valley should be of equal value.

### III.—General.

Text books and Examiners should be selected with more care. The rules relating to the distribution of rewards to gurus should not be the same everywhere. There should be a relaxation of these rules in the case of pathsalas situated in backward places, and such pathsalas should receive due consideration from the Educational authorities.

20. The *Sahachar*, of the 3rd August, is glad that the proposal to abolish the Calcutta Hare School has been abandoned. It is not easy to see why the proposal was entertained at all, seeing that

SANACHAR,  
August 3rd, 1887.

The Calcutta Hare School and the Government School at Howrah.

the school is able every year to show a surplus of income over expenditure. The proposal probably had its origin in the Government's desire to withdraw from high education. As regards the Government school at Howrah, will Government attend to the prayer of the Howrah people to reduce school fees in that school? It is rumoured that the school founded by Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee at Howrah has imperilled the Government school there. This, if true, is greatly to be regretted.

21. The *Sanjivani*, of the 6th August, points out some errors in a Bengali text-book in Geography called the Bhugolapátha by Baboo Prasanna Kumar

SANJIVANI,  
August 6th, 1887.

A Bengali work on Geography.

Acharya, in use in Mymensing, and says that such a book should not be allowed to be used in schools.



SOM PRAKASH,  
August 8th, 1887.

22. The *Som Prakash*, of the 8th August, says that, although the number of schools in Bengal in 1885-86 was less than the number in 1884-85 by 14,830, the cost of inspection in 1885-86 was not less than the cost of inspection in 1884-85. On the contrary, the cost of inspection in 1885-86 underwent an increase in consequence of the increased salaries given to Sub-Inspectors and the appointment of some new Assistant Inspectors in the Burdwan, Dacca and Rajshahy divisions. But this increase of expenditure has been most improper and inopportune in these days of retrenchment and financial difficulty. Instead of adding to the inspecting agency, Government might, without impairing its efficiency, have dispensed with the services of some among the Inspectors of Schools.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
August 8th, 1887.

23. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 8th August, is of opinion that one principal cause of the unprogressive character of the Bengali people will be removed if the Bengali language is made one of the subjects of examination in the higher examinations of the Calcutta University. There should be an examination in the Bengali language at least in the First Examination in Arts. Doctor P. K. Roy is requested to take this question up. He is a worthy son of Bengal, and it is hoped that he will try his best to improve the language of his country by introducing its study in the College classes.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA.  
August 11th, 1887.

24. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 11th August, is concerned to learn, from a correspondent of the *Statesman* newspaper, that the ensuing M. A. and B. L. Examinations will be held in the last week of January. This alteration of the time for holding the two examinations will be attended with serious inconvenience to those candidates who go up for both the examinations in the same year, and it is apprehended that at least 20 young men will be prevented from appearing at the examinations on this account. The University authorities are requested to look to this matter and devise some remedy.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

GARIB & MAHAVIDYA,  
August 4th, 1887.

25. The *Garib and Mahavidya*, of the 4th August, doubts whether the British Government would have introduced Local Self-Government into this country if Local Self-Government had been, in its opinion, calculated to infuse new life into native society, or promote its real and most substantial interests. For to confer such benefit upon natives is opposed to the requirements of British policy in India. The policy which the British Government has had in view in introducing Local Self-Government is the self-same policy which leads it to sow the seeds of disunion between Hindus and Mahomedans, between zemindars and ryots, between the educated and the uneducated. If the late sensational municipal case of Dacca is carefully examined, it will clearly appear that the only object of the wily English Government in introducing the system of Local Self-Government is to produce dissension among the leaders of native society; and it is a pity that natives are themselves doing their best to further this object of the Government.

PRATIKAR,  
August 5th, 1887.

26. The *Pratikar*, of the 5th August, says that there are very few Honorary Magistrates among the elected Commissioners of the Berhampore Municipality. Government should therefore appoint some of the Municipal Commissioners as Honorary Magistrates for the trial of cases coming before the Municipal Bench.



27. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 6th August, draws the attention of the Calcutta Municipality to the deplorable condition of the following streets

The streets of Calcutta.

SAMVAD PURNA-  
CHANDRODAYA,  
August 6th, 1887.

of the town :—

Amratola Street, Govinchand Dhur's Lane, Armenian Street, Shami Bewa's Lane, the roads in Surtibagan, Sutapati, Doyahatta, Chinipati, Pagyapati, &c. These roads become almost impassable during the rainy season, and they are found to be very dirty and foul-smelling.

28. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 6th August, reports that the house No. 34, Jaliapara Road, in Bhowanipore, is in a dilapidated condition.

BANGABASI,  
August 6th, 1887.

A dilapidated house in Bhowanipore.

The building was condemned and ordered to be pulled down about three years ago; but the order was never carried into effect. The inhabitants of the locality have petitioned for the demolition of the house, but in vain. What may all this mean?

29. It appears to the *Som Prakāsh*, of the 8th August, very strange that the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta should be denied the right of electing their

SOM PRAKASH.  
August 8th, 1887.

The Calcutta Municipality.

Chairman, when even such municipalities as those of Howrah and Utterpara have been granted that right. That this anomaly still exists is simply because Anglo-Indians fear that the Calcutta Municipality, if allowed to elect its own Chairman, will elect a native Chairman, and the idea of a native Chairman in the Calcutta Municipality is intolerable to them.

It is to be regretted that the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta cannot display sufficient courage and independence in the exercise of their right of filling up vacancies in the municipality. This is the reason why the Health Officership of the municipality was given to such a man as Dr. Simpson. When the Commissioners go about canvassing for votes, they promise all sorts of good things to their voters; but once elected, they forget all their promises. Instead of labouring in the interests of their voters, many of them seek only their own welfare and advancement.

The other day the License Officer, Baboo Nava Gopal Mittra, wasted a large amount of municipal money, but the Chairman took no notice of the matter, and the Commissioners did nothing to have the matter properly investigated. The Commissioners lack moral courage. The other day the Chairman compelled the municipal treasurer, Baboo Benode Behari Das, to resign; and the Commissioners, who were not consulted in the matter, quietly gave way. Sixteen new Health Superintendents have been recently appointed by the municipality, and 15 out of these 16 are Eurasians and only one a Hindu. But if the proportion of Native to European rate-payers had been taken into consideration in making these appointments, 15 of these appointments should have gone to Hindus and only one to Eurasians. But none of the Commissioners has protested against the injustice of the Chairman's appointment. The Chairman has also recently appointed one Mr. Vincent, probably a Eurasian, in the Health Department on a monthly salary of Rs. 200. An appointment of that value cannot be made by the Chairman without the consent of the Commissioners. But the Chairman has first chosen his own man, and then informed the Commissioners of his choice simply as a matter of form. It was not expected that there would be such doings during the Chairmanship of Mr. Cotton. It is to be hoped that the rate-payers of Calcutta will bring these irregularities to the notice of Government.

30. The *Dainik and Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 11th August, observes that Local Self-Government will be a success if all District and Local Boards should pay proper attention to the subject of sanitation

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
August 11th, 1887.

Local Self-Government and village sanitation.



in the village. The Boards should pay particular attention to the clearing of jungles, the construction of drains, and the supply of pure drinking water. The Hooghly District Board is taking steps with the view of preventing the contamination of the water of tanks used for drinking and cooking purposes. This is as it should be. District Boards all over the country should follow the example of the Hooghly Board, and reserve one or two tanks in every small village, and at least one tank in every quarter of every large village, for drinking purposes. In villages in which no good tanks exist, it should be the first duty of the Boards to excavate new tanks or re-excavate the old and neglected tanks; and Government should give the Board all those powers which may be required by them for the purpose of doing this part of their work.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
August 2nd, 1887.

31. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 2nd August, draws the attention of Mr. Oldham, Magistrate of Burdwan, to the inconvenience experienced by agriculturists and travellers in general in consequence of the

A khal stopped with dams.

*khal* flowing through the villages of Belsahar and Bolepur within the jurisdiction of the Rayna thana, having been filled up with water in several places by Baboos Sibnath Dutt and Bhairab Chandra Dutt, talukdars of the village Basti. These dams, constructed with a view to preventing the escape of fish, have had the effect of raising the level of the water in some places so high as to make the *khal* quite unfordable in those places. The obstruction of the *khal* is also doing much harm to agriculture.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

32. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the miserable condition of the roads in the village of Sahebganj near Barabelun. During the rainy season one of these roads remains under water.

Roads at Sahebganj near Barabelun.

The village pays Rs. 300 a year as road cess. The members of the District Board of Burdwan should cause repairs to the road.

CHARE VARTA,  
August 2nd, 1887.

33. A correspondent of the *Cháruará*, of the 2nd August, says that the Government roads in and near Essurgunge, a munsifi station in Mymensingh, are out

Government roads in Essurgunge.

of repair. The members of the Road Cess Committee are requested to thoroughly repair those roads.

RUNGPORE DIK-  
PROKASH.  
August 4th, 1887.

34. A correspondent of the *Rungpore Dik Prakásh*, of the 4th August, complains that the narrow road from Monohorpore near Gybanda to Amlagatchi

The road from Monohorpore near Gybanda to Amlagatchi.

remains under water half the year, during which one cannot make a journey over it except in a boat. The Government is requested to construct a narrow road between those places by way of Ghorabanda for the convenience of the people inhabiting that part of the country.

MURSHIDABAD  
PATRIKA,  
August 5th, 1887.

35. The *Murshidabad Patriká*, of the 5th August, is sorry to learn that the construction of the proposed Ranaghat-Bhugwangola Railway cannot be undertaken for want of money.

The Nalhati-Azimgunge State Railway.

The Government wastes money in many ways. It can afford to defray all the extravagant expenses of the annual migration to the hills, but it feels straitened for funds when it is called upon to construct so profitable a line as the proposed Ranaghat-Bhugwangola line is certain to prove. The proposal to construct that line was once dropped on account of the Cabul war, and it is meant to drop it now on the plea of want of money. Government should, however, consider that this line, if constructed, will prove an excellent feeder to the Nalhati branch line, and will help materially to secure the improvement and stability of that line. Government ought even to borrow money for constructing such a line as this. There is another means by which the Nalhati



line may be improved, namely, by again including Palsa and other places which now belong to the Ramporehat sub-division, in the Berhampore sub-division. If this is done, suitors will necessarily travel by this railway in order to go to Berhampore to conduct cases ; but if this line is closed, Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Company will not be able to conduct all the traffic in that part of the country in their steamers. The Bhagirathi dries up in the summer, and steamers cannot ply for six months in the year. As steamers cannot therefore be depended upon for the purposes of travel and traffic, it is clear that the permanence of the Nalhati line is a necessity. It is the duty of the Government and the public to see that that line is strengthened by the construction of the Ranaghat-Bhagwangola line.

36. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 6th August, complains that the roads in Ghatakpara and Vaidyapara in Manirampore near Barrackpore are out of repair. The people pay the cesses regularly, but thanks to precious Local Self-Government, their grievances remain as much unredressed as ever.

BANGABASI,  
August 6th, 1887.

(h)—General.

37. The *Bhāratbāsi* of the 30th July, does not approve of the Lieutenant-Governor's action in the matter of the Burdwan adoption. It appears from the statements published in this connection in the Anglo-Indian dailies that the object of the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Burdwan was not to consult the Ranis, but to make Lala Bun Behary's son Maharajah of Burdwan ; but if he was so minded, it would have been better if he had told as much before he went to Burdwan. Why was the rumour of an intended consultation allowed to circulate? The Lieutenant-Governor went to the Dowager Maharani and asked what her objections to the adoption of Lala Bun Behary's son were. She stated her objections, and complained that the young Maharani had not been allowed to visit her, and that she could not therefore tell what the younger Rani's real intentions were at present ; but she knew that her daughter-in-law was some time ago opposed to the adoption of Bun Behary's son. But the Lieutenant-Governor paid no heed to these words. As regards the young Maharani, did the Lieutenant-Governor ask her why she had changed her opinion? But the mission of the Lieutenant-Governor was not to do all this, but to select the Lala's son as the future Maharaja of Burdwan. For, as soon as the young Maharani expressed her desire to adopt Bun Behary's son, the Lieutenant-Governor at once ordered that the child should be brought before him, and as soon as he was brought he placed him on the Maharani's lap, and also on his own lap, and put a garland of flowers round his neck, and declared him Maharaja of Burdwan. It is not easy to understand why the Lieutenant-Governor was so hasty in his action in this matter. Perhaps Sir Steuart Bayley expects by acting in this way to extinguish the fire which has been burning for some time in Burdwan. If so, he is sure to be disappointed.

BHARATBASI,  
July 30th, 1887.

38. The same paper asks whether the punishment awarded to Mr. Beames will serve the object with which offenders are punished. The object of punishment is to reform the offender and to deter others from committing offences ; but the punishment awarded to Mr. Beames will not serve any of these objects. A Governmental censure is now-a-days looked upon in the light of a blessing by despotic officials. They do not feel disgraced when they are censured. Governmental censure has also become so common to bear any significance. Mr. Beames' transfer cannot be considered in the light of a punishment : for he was only officiating in the Board of Revenue for

BHARATBASI.



Mr. Reynolds, who will shortly return. However that may be, it is something that what Lord Dufferin and Sir Steuart Bayley have done would not have been done in such a *regimé* as Sir Rivers Thompson's.

BHARATBASI,  
July 30th, 1887.

39. The same paper recommends that a native should be appointed as a Member of the India Council. Competent natives are available for the purpose. Is it not desirable that a man of Dadabhai Nowroji's stamp should get a seat in that Council?

BHARATBASI.

40. A correspondent of the same paper complains of great increase of drunkenness and of drunken and disorderly exhibitions in Mahiari, and the adjoining villages in the Howrah district. The poorer classes are drinking more largely than before, their children too are drinking, and their families are starving. The drunkards make the most indecent exhibitions in front of the school, and before the young school-boys. All this may be corrected in some measure by removing the outstills to the western end of the village, and by stopping the secret sale of liquor in old grogshops and in the houses of prostitutes.

CHARU VARTA,  
August 2nd, 1887.

41. A correspondent of the *Cháru Vártá*, of the 2nd August, strongly recommends the establishment of a Sub-Registry office at the Issurgunge Munsifi Station in Mymensingh. A Sub-Registry office at that place will remove a long-felt grievance of the people, and yield some revenue to Government. The people residing in the Issurgunge station have now to make very long journeys at considerable trouble and expense, in order to get their deeds registered.

SRIMANTA SADAGAR,  
August 3rd, 1887.

42. The *Srimant Sadágar*, of the 3rd August, disapproves of the action of Sir Steuart Bayley in the matter of the Burdwan adoption. His decision is at variance with the Shastras and customs of Hindus. Why should the Burdwan adoption be regulated according to the Punjab law? The ancestors of this princely house came to this country nearly 300 years ago, and it is impossible that the family can have stuck to their Punjab customs so long.

SAHACHAR,  
August 3rd, 1887.

43. The *Sahachar*, of the 3rd August, says that the want of perseverance on the part of the people of this country in getting their oppressors punished is the chief reason why they are so often subjected to oppression. So long as the people will maintain their present attitude of indifference, cases like that of Mr. Luson will not cease to occur from time to time. Anglo-Indian oppression and official oppression will surely disappear if only the people of the country take the vow that they will no longer suffer oppression at their hands. Let associations, similar to the one established in Calcutta for the prevention of crime, be organised all over the country, and let these associations bring all cases of oppression, wrong-doing, and injustice to the notice of the head association, and let not the people rest until they have brought all offenders to justice. These associations should not take up an attitude of hostility towards Government officers, for in that case Government will be compelled to take up the cause of its officers. With all their faults, the civilians are the natural friends of the people of this country, and most of their errors proceed from their overweening self-confidence. What is required for their correction is that they should be taught to feel that, like other men, they are liable to error. As a rule, the people of this country should try to help the officers of Government, and to strengthen their hands in the discharge of their duties.



44. The same paper, referring to the Governor-General's last letter to the Secretary of State, on the subject of the Simla exodus, says that this letter, like the

The Simla exodus.

one sent before it, contains nothing in the shape of reasoning, good or bad, that will bear examination. If the former explanation was not satisfactory to the Secretary of State, it is difficult to see how the new explanation will be such. One of the arguments adduced in favour of the Simla exodus is that the movements of Russia in Central Asia required that the Government of India should be located somewhere near the North-Western frontier. But past Governors-General with their capital located permanently at Calcutta and without railways and telegraphic communications at their command were able to conquer distant Indian provinces, to defeat such enemies as the Sikhs and Mahrattas, and to do lots of other things of the same nature. If England and Russia ever come face to face, the encounter will not take place in Central Asia, nor will the location of the capital at Simla prove politically advantageous in that event. The Simla exodus has increased and will continue to increase administrative difficulty and the expenditure of Government. Government should not also displease its 20 crores of subjects. The blot that has been cast on British rule in India by this Simla exodus of the Government of India will not be obliterated until that exodus is systematically discontinued.

SAHACHAR,  
August 3rd, 1887.

45. Referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's approval of the adoption of Babu Ban Behari's son by the Maharani of Burdwan, the same paper says that Sir

The Burdwan adoption.

Steuart Bayley, guided by the advice of the Board of Revenue, has set the Hindu law of adoption at naught, and that his action ought to be protested against. Sir Steuart should have taken more time to consider the matter. Some say that this affair of the adoption was in a manner hastened by the Board of Revenue, which feared that the younger Maharani on attaining majority might take the management of the Raj estate into her own hands, and thus deprive them of what they had themselves so greedily seized upon. Some, again, are pointing their finger at Mr. Beames. That Mr. Beames took much pains to bring the younger Maharani over to Ban Behari's side is certain. The whole of this adoption affair has a mysterious air about it.

SAHACHAR.

46. The Gybanda correspondent of the same paper complains of the arbitrary proceedings of the income-tax assessor of that place. *Háts* and markets are going to be closed on account of his unjust assessments. The cultivators, shop-keepers and traders are most unfairly assessed, and then, if they decline to pay the tax, their moveable properties, and even their agricultural implements, are sold by auction; and not even the poorest of the poor, who supports his family by keeping shop as a *mudi*, is exempted.

SAHACHAR.

47. The *Surabhi* and *Patáká*, of the 4th August, says that so long as the India Council is not done away with, the best thing to do in regard to it is to give some seats in it to representative men from India. Each Indian Presidency should be allowed to send a member to it.

SURABHI & PATAKA,  
August 4th, 1887.

48. The *Dhumketu*, of the 5th August, says that Government has upheld its dignity by punishing Messrs. Luson and Beames in the face of the strong Anglo-Indian demonstration made in their favour; and this act of the Government will go far towards arresting the progress of lawlessness among civilians. Good acts like these reflect glory upon an administration and are productive of better results in the future.

DHUMKETU,  
August 5th, 1887.

The punishment of Messrs. Luson and Beames.



SAMAYA,  
August 6th, 1887.

49. The *Samaya*, of the 5th August, disapproves of the proposal of the Government of India to cut down the allowances of the poor clerks of the offices which go to Simla, and observes that curtailment of this kind will not lead to any substantial saving of expenditure. If Government really wants to reduce expenditure, it should begin with its highly paid officials, not excepting the Governor-General himself.

SAMAYA.

50. The same paper heartily approves of the petition submitted by the British Indian Association to the Lieutenant-Governor, protesting against the Income-tax Rules framed by Mr. Grimley, the Income-tax Commissioner.

SAMAYA.

51. The same paper blames the younger Maharani of Burdwan for taking Babu Bun Behari's son in adoption. The illegality of this adoption has been more than once pointed out. It appears from the Dowager Maharani's letter to Government that her objections to this adoption are not groundless. The Lieutenant-Governor has, by allowing this adoption, revolutionised the customs of the Burdwan Raj family, and the position of the whole Kshatriya community, nay, perhaps, the position of Hindu society itself.

ARYA DARPAN,  
August 5th, 1887.

52. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 5th August, says that the telegram from Simla, that the clerks in the offices of the Government of India will have to remain at Simla all the year round has carried sorrow and alarm into many families in Bengal. Many of the clerks will not be able to take their families to Simla, and it will go hard with them if they are not allowed, as at present, to come home once a year to see their nearest and dearest relations. Their circumstances in life will not enable them to resign their posts, and so they will have to suffer severe pangs of separation. It is also very doubtful whether they will be able to bear the intense cold of Simla in the winter season. Many healthy men among them have been known to have completely broken down in the cold of Simla. Englishmen are natives of a cold country, and their food and dress are adapted to residence in cold climates.

BANGABASI,  
August 6th, 1887.

53. The *Bangabási*, of the 6th August, is of opinion that criminals ought to be punished with fine or imprisonment, but they should not be flogged. Criminals were not flogged formerly; punishment by flogging has been introduced with a view of reducing jail expenditure. But it is causing great injury to society. Redress can be obtained in cases of punishment by fine or imprisonment, but not in cases of punishment by flogging. No humane person can therefore approve of punishment by flogging. There are few Judges who do not err, and it cannot be that all orders for flogging are free from error; and yet the law allows no appeal against such orders. Many kind-hearted Deputy Magistrates have been heard to express themselves against flogging. It is hardly necessary to tell Government that punishment by flogging is creating discontent among the people. Government should therefore abolish that punishment even though its abolition lead to a slight increase of jail expenditure by increasing the number of prisoners. Government has abolished flogging in the army; it has also reduced its severity in the jails. Why should it then permit it in the courts?

BANGABASI.

54. The same paper says that the refusal of Sir Rivers Thompson to grant the petition of Hindus for the release of the ex-Raja of Puri has filled the whole country with despair. Sir Steuart Bayley has commenced his administration in a manner which is full of hope for the people of this country. The people therefore request him to please the whole Hindu community by releasing the ex-Raja of Puri, Dibya Singh, who is now suffering hell torments in exile with a heart broken and despondent, and a mind muddled by



the loss of reason. Let Sir Steuart Bayley do honour to the Jubilee, enhance the glory of British rule in India, add to the contentment of the people, and establish a lasting name for himself by restoring the Raja to his family. Mercy is the attribute of God and the very essence of Christianity. Jesus Christ sacrificed his life out of mercy for others.

55. The *Sanjivani*, of the 6th August, is glad that Lord Dufferin has not consented to the proposed reduction of the allowances given to clerks who go to Simla.

SANJIVANI,  
August 6th, 1887.

56. The same paper says that the rules issued by the Government of India, prohibiting the acceptance of addresses by the officers of Government, if duly observed, will have the effect of preventing many worthless officers from carrying home addresses containing words of fulsome adulation, and will also make it impossible for Government officers to extort money from poor men for the purpose of getting up memorials.

SANJIVANI.

57. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 8th August, referring to the opinion expressed in the *Westminster Review* that the three sons of the Queen who hold high appointments in the army and navy are unfit for their offices, says that there can be no harm in giving them commands in the Volunteer Corps.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
August 8th, 1887.

58. The *Som Prakash*, of the 8th August, asks Government to improve the condition of the Munsifs as a class. They have to work harder than Deputy Magistrates, but they are worse off than the latter. Deputy Magistrates enjoy many substantial advantages which are denied to the Munsifs. The Deputy Magistrates obtain quarters from Government and have some prize posts like the Presidency Magistrateship and the Deputy Collectorship of Calcutta within their reach. At the sudder stations Deputy Magistrates do registration work and thereby earn some extra remuneration; but Munsifs enjoy none of these advantages. A Munsif cannot earn a pice over and above his salary; and he must pass all his life in the far mofussil. It is desirable that Government should try to raise the status of the Munsifs in consideration of the disadvantages they labour under.

SOM PRAKASH.  
August 8th, 1887.

59. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 8th August, says that Government cannot be exonerated from the charge of introducing drunkenness among the lower classes of society in this country by attributing the drunkenness prevailing among them to the example of the educated community instead of to its real cause, the outstill system, and by laying stress on the doctrine of political economy that an indirect tax, like the tax on an article of luxury like wine, is less objectionable than a direct tax. There may be some force in the argument about the example of the educated community, but it is clear that such increase of drunkenness among the lower classes, as is found to have taken place in the Hooghly and Howrah districts, is mainly due to the outstill system. As to the second contention based upon political economy, it is plausible enough; but its fallacy stands bare when it is considered that Government is tempting the poorer classes to drink by bringing wine to their doors.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
August 8th, 1887.

60. The same paper publishes a letter from a correspondent complaining of great irregularity in the delivery of letters at Haldia in Vikrampore, Dacca, a great trading place, and containing many respectable inhabitants, but without a post office. The inhabitants of the place are ready to give the local schoolmaster a monthly salary of Rs. 3 for discharging the duties of

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI.



a postmaster, and to provide suitable accommodation for a post office free of rent. The correspondent expresses the hope that the Director-General of the Post Office will, under these circumstances, establish a post office at that place.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
August 8th, 1887.

61. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 8th August, says that Mr. Halliday will perform, in addition to his own duties, the duties of Mr. Reynolds during the absence of the latter. This shows that one member is sufficient for the Board's work, and a saving of Rs. 48,000 a year may be effected by abolishing the other membership. If this is done, it will not be necessary to deprive poor clerks of their bread.

Retrenchment in the Board of Revenue.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

SAMAYA,  
August 5th, 1887.

62. The *Samaya*, of the 5th August, declares itself against the proposed revival of Act XIV of 1868. Revival will, in the first place, have the effect of increasing the number of persons frequenting public houses. It will, in the second place, increase police oppression. The number of public prostitutes may also decrease, but secret prostitution will increase.

The proposed revival of Act XIV of 1868.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
August 8th, 1887.

63. The *Navavibhakar Sadhārānī*, of the 8th August, meets in the following manner the objections to the re-enforcement of the Contagious Diseases Act:—

The Contagious Diseases Act.

1. It may be true that, if that Act is revived, people will not fear so much as they now do to visit public women; but if the knowledge of the sufferings which venereal diseases entail upon successive generations does not prove a sufficiently strong deterrent in most cases, it is idle to suppose that the fear of contracting those diseases does really deter men to any appreciable extent. No harm can therefore be done by reviving the Act.
2. The working of such an Act is necessarily attended with some amount of oppression; but such oppression has a tendency to decrease and to come to an end after some time.
3. The argument about outraging the modesty of prostitutes is of no force whatever. In sickness, even respectable women have often to subject themselves to medical examination of a character which is not at all agreeable to their notions of modesty.
4. The operation of an Act like the Contagious Diseases Act is said to be attended with the effect of compelling many prostitutes to enter into domestic service, and it is argued that, as servants in respectable families, these prostitutes work the ruin of many young men; but it should be remembered that the antecedents of a woman are carefully enquired into before she is admitted as a servant in a respectable family. Besides, the character of female servants in the town has always been of much the same description. The enforcement of Act XIV of 1868 compelled many prostitutes to work in mills. Such a result, it is clear, can cause no harm to society.
5. It is said that the working of Act XIV of 1868 involved an annual expenditure of Rs. 80,000, and it is contended that it is not just or fair to spend so much public money for the sake of a few prostitutes; but the expenditure which is made in the interest of a whole society is not surely waste of



money. What is really wanted is that an enquiry should be made as to whether or not the suspension of the Act has led to increased prevalence of contagious diseases ; and if such diseases are found to have become more prevalent and steps should be taken to remedy the evil.

#### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

64. The *Dhumketu*, of the 5th August, referring to the case reported in the *Indian Daily News* newspaper, regarding the illegal detention of a Thakur in Jodhpur, and the forcible seizure of his lands by the Maharajah, says that this case, if true, reveals a really dangerous state of things. A man has been subjected to grave oppression simply because he has not consented to part with his own property ! It is still more awful to contemplate that an aggrieved person should get no redress in consequence of the superior authorities being against him. For, if he applies for redress to the proper authority and if that authority takes no notice of his case, his application to a superior authority is rejected on the ground of its not having come through the "proper channel." In the present case, when the Political Agent did nothing in the matter, what other course was open to the Thakur except applying to the Governor-General and the Secretary of State ? But the Governor-General and the Secretary of State have refused to interfere because the Thakur's application to them did not come through the "proper channel." The Maharajah has also washed his hands clean of the matter, and laid the whole blame on the Political Agent. What does the Political Agent say in self-exculpation ? Unless this official formality about the "proper channel" is done away with, oppression and injustice will remain unpunished.

DHUMKETU,  
August 5th, 1887.

65. The *Bangabási*, of the 6th August, says that Baboo Nilambar while at Cashmere, was an eyesore to the English. He was therefore turned out of that State ; but the present Dewan Luchman Das is a favourite of the English. Why then are rumours of internal disorders still coming from Cashmere ? Was the Maharajah Pratap Singh consulted when the English turned out Nilambar and appointed Luchman Das as Dewan ? The rumour goes that the Maharajah was not consulted in that important matter. The Maharajah is at present a cypher, and has no voice in the administration of his State. The real ruler of the State is Dewan Luchman Das. People who are loyally attached to the Maharajah, and who are his favourites, are now being punished and banished from the State at the instigation of Luchman Das. The existence of such a state of affairs in Cashmere leads people to suspect that the English will soon annex that State. It is to be hoped, however, that the English will not meddle in the affairs of Cashmere at a time like this, when serious disturbances are taking place on the North-Western Frontier. The main strength of British rule in India in times of difficulty and danger lies in the love and confidence of the princes and the people of India. Relying on that strength, Englishmen can defy even Russia. The officers of Government should therefore try their best to increase in the minds of the princes and people of India the love and confidence which they cherish for the Paramount power.

BANGABASI,  
August 6th, 1887.

66. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 7th August, referring to the reported acquittal of Mr. Wilson of Cambay by the Secretary of State, says that, according to the *Englishman* newspaper, Lord Reay's decision in Mr. Wilson's case, although arrived at after careful examination of the evidence given before the Commission, has no weight at

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
August 7th, 1887.

The Secretary of State and Mr.  
Wilson of Cambay.



all. But if a decision so arrived at is of no force and validity, is it possible to attach any weight whatever to the decision of the Secretary of State, which is apparently based solely upon the *ex parte* statements of Mr. Wilson himself? It is also rumoured that Mr. Wilson has resigned his office. But why should he resign if he is guiltless in the opinion of the Secretary of State? Has Mr. Wilson been compelled to resign? No judgment can be formed about this case until the decision of the Secretary of State is published. That decision ought to be published at once.

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

RUNGPORE DIK  
PRAKASH,  
August 4th, 1887.

67. The Gybanda correspondent of the *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 4th August, says that the condition of the autumn paddy crop in that part of the country

is most deplorable.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
August 11th, 1887.

68. A correspondent of the *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 11th August, reports that at 3 P.M. on the 5th August last, the Silavati river overflowed its embankment and submerged the surrounding country within a short time. The water rose two feet above the Ghattal embankment, which is 25 feet high. It is fortunate that no lives were lost, as the flood came on at day-time. The people have lost what they had, and are in a most deplorable condition. Thatched houses, cattle, barns stored with paddy, rice, &c., have all been washed away. The Magistrate of Midnapore is requested to take precautionary measures against the recurrence of a similar catastrophe in future.

Floods in Midnapore and Ghattal.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
August 2nd, 1887.

69. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 2nd August, is sorry that Mr. Beames has been disgraced. Native hater and unfriendly to native interests though he be, his fall has given the writer no cause for rejoicing. What rejoices the writer is the victory which has been achieved by one of the native papers, which is tantamount to the victory of the entire native press—nay, of the whole native population of Bengal.

Mr. Beames.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

70. The same paper is sorry at the proposed transfer of Baboo Jadu Nath Bose, Deputy Magistrate of Burdwan. During his short stay at Burdwan the Baboo succeeded in winning the love and regard of the local public by his efficient administration of justice.

Baboo Jadu Nath Bose, Deputy Magistrate of Burdwan.

SRIMANT SADAGAR,  
August, 3rd 1887.

71. The *Srimant Sadagar*, of the 3rd August, says that, in the first Durbar held by Sir Steuart Bayley, due attention was not shown to the gentlemen who were invited to it. There were not enough of chairs for them, and so many of them had to remain standing.

Sir Steuart Bayley's first Durbar.

SURABHI & PATAKA,  
August 4th, 1887.

72. The *Surabhi and Patáka*, of the 4th August, states, by way of reply to the *Englishman* newspaper, that it will not object to Mr. Beames' native creditors being punished. It thinks, however, that, if they are punished, Mr. Beames should himself be more severely dealt with than he has been. His punishment has been of the lightest character. Sensible men ought to take note of the fact that the natives who lend money to the European officers of Government in the mofussil do not do so of their own accord, but are often compelled to do so for fear of incurring the displeasure of those officers. Refusal to lend money in such cases is in fact often attended with dangerous consequences. This has been made clear in the Rungpore and Azimgunge cases. As regards Mr. Beames' creditors, it is a point for inquiry whether they lent him money of their own accord or were compelled by him to do so.

Mr. Beames.



Mr. Beames should have been transferred to a place where none of his creditors live or have any estates; and he ought to be called upon to furnish Government with a list of all his creditors.

73. The *Pratikár*, of the 5th August, says that great inconvenience is being caused by the location of the Magistrate's and Judge's Courts at Berhampore in two different buildings at a considerable distance from each other. If the two courts are located in the Government barracks, the threatened demolition of that fine building will be averted, and the inconvenience complained of will be removed. It is hoped that the Lieutenant-Governor will pass an order in this matter, which will meet the wishes of the local public.

The Magistrate's and Judge's Courts, Berhampore.

PRATIKAR,  
August 5th, 1887.

74. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 5th August, says that the early marriage question concerns Hindu society consisting of 20 crores of people. The European Missionaries in Calcutta apparently forget that

The early marriage question and the Christian community.

serious disturbances will be caused in Hindu society if Government interferes with their marriage customs. They also fail to see that, if Government does anything of the kind it will become easy for immoral men to enter into the Christian community in this country. It is a matter of regret that one or two Native Christians are supporting the views of these European Missionaries. But it is well known that the best educated, the most farsighted, the highly independent, and the most thoughtful among Native Christians do not hold those views. Mr. Macdonald's supporters are men who cannot understand the subject in all its real bearings, and who seem to think that everything in India is bad. The views of these men are not shared by the more intelligent members of the Native Christian community.

ARYA DARPAN  
August 5th, 1887.

75. According to the *Dhumketu*, of the 5th August, more than 150 lives have been lost in the wreck of the *Mahratta*; so the total loss of life in the wreck of the

The loss of the *Mahratta*.

*Sir John Lawrence* and the *Mahratta* amounts to about one thousand souls. Is nobody responsible for this loss? Probably a Marine Court of inquiry like the one appointed to enquire into the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence* will be held in connection with the loss of the *Mahratta*. But care should be taken that the inquiry does not become a farce.

DHUMKETU,  
August 5th, 1887.

76. The *Sanjivani*, of the 6th August, complains of the kidnapping which is now practised on so large a scale by coolie-recruiters in the Sonthal Pergunnahs

Kidnapping by coolie recruiters.

and in the districts of Chota Nagpore, Burdwan, and Midnapore. Their practice is increasing in activity and extending to other districts. Will Bengal be converted into a veritable slave mart?

SANJIVANI,  
August 6th, 1887.

77. The same paper says that a correspondent of the *Englishman* newspaper wants to punish the creditors of Mr. Beames. Yes, there ought to be a case in

Mr. Beames' creditors.

the law courts against Mr. Beames' creditors, for such a case will surely lead to many interesting revelations regarding that gentleman.

SANJIVANI.

78. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 11th August, complains of the negligent way in which the Court of Enquiry into the loss of the *Mahratta*

The loss of the *Mahratta*.

is doing its work. Government seems to be wholly indifferent in the matter, and this is extremely irritating to the public. Government should apply itself heart and soul to the subject with a view of bringing all the facts of the case to light.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
August 11th, 1887.



## URIYA PAPERS.

UTKAL DIPIKA,  
July 16th, 1887.

79. The *Utkal Dīpikā*, of the 16th July, says that cholera is raging, as before, in the town of Cuttack. Its appearance in a sporadic form has to some extent

Cholera in Cuttack.

lessened the anxiety of the people.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

80. The same paper says that the Magistrate has directed that from early morning till 7 A.M. and from 5 P.M. till sunset will be the time within which

An order of the Magistrate of Cuttack.

cattle may be permitted to pass the main streets of the town, and that, if any cattle is found straying in the streets beyond these hours, the police will be authorised to impound them and to institute criminal proceedings against their owners. Under this order some owners of cattle have been punished and some in consequence have hesitated to come forward to release their cattle, lest they should, in addition to the payment of pound fees, render themselves liable to a criminal prosecution. The writer does not know under what law the Magistrate has issued this unlawful order. The people of Cuttack feel annoyed at this order. Had the time been from 8 to 10 A.M. there would have been no cause of dissatisfaction. Cows cannot be taken out to graze before they are milked. Again, it is not usual to milk cows in this place early in the morning, nor can *goallas* be had to milk cows so early in the morning. It is a matter of great regret, observes the editor, that the *hakims* sometimes pass arbitrary orders without paying any regard to local circumstances.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

81. Referring to the Meherpore fishing case, the same paper says that an officer like Mr. Luson is not fit to perform

Mr. Luson.

the duties of a Magistrate. It is a wonder,

says the editor, that Government should any longer keep him in the public service without subjecting him to the punishment he deserves.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

82. Anent the proposed construction of a sanitarium at Darjeeling,

The proposed sanitarium at Darjeeling.

the same paper exhorts his countrymen to come forward and make liberal contributions

towards the completion of the building,

SAMVAD BAHIKA,  
July 14th, 1887.

83. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 14th July, informs the public that the

Steamer service in the coast canal.

coast canal has been opened to traffic from Chargachia on the Bollong river to Charbati,

and says that the people have grown impatient about the commencement of steamer service in the canal between Calcutta and Cuttack.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

84. The same paper is glad to announce that Mr. Tute, the Magistrate of Balasore, is about to appoint a Medical Inspector to look into the condition of the

Medical inspection of the roadside serais in Orissa.

*serais* on the Grand Trunk road from

Bhadruk to the extreme point of the Balasore district. It has been repeatedly pointed out that in consequence of the miserable and wretched state of the *serais*, the bad drinking water and the unwholesome character of the provisions supplied by the *moodees*, mortality among pilgrims assumes an awful form. It is hoped that the proposed medical supervision will lead to the improvement of this very insanitary condition of things. The *Sanskāraka* approves of the proposal.

SANSKARAKA,  
July 21st, 1887.

85. The *Sanskāraka*, of the 21st July, in noticing the publication in the *Uriya Gazette* of the Native Passenger

Native passenger ships.

Snips Act, suggests the advisability of keep-

ing a record of the names of the passengers on board ships. This may be done in the office of the Company owning the vessels. It is owing to the absence of such a provision that the addresses of the passengers on board the *Sir John Lawrence* could not be ascertained.



86. The same paper says that cholera is making great havoc in the sub-division of Khordah, so much so that some villages have been almost depopulated and the people are panic-stricken. The local Magistrate is requested to appoint doctors in the mofussil.

Cholera in Khordah.

SANSKARAKA,  
July 21st, 1887.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

*The 13th August 1887.*



